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Agenda item 7

ADOPTION OF RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE CONFERENCE AND OTHER DECISIONS AND CONCLUSIONS REQUIRING ACTION BY THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

Draft decision of the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole

Designation of a permanent secretariat and arrangements for its functioning: collaboration with other Conventions

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling the "Programme for the further implementation of Agenda 21" adopted by the nineteenth special session of the United Nations General Assembly, which, inter alia, recommends that the conference of the parties to conventions signed at the Rio Conference or as a result of it, as well as other conventions related to sustainable development, cooperate in exploring ways and means of collaborating in their work to advance the effective implementation of the conventions,

Recalling also the "Programme for the further implementation of Agenda 21" adopted by the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly, which, inter alia, recommends that the role of UNEP in the further development of international environmental law should be strengthened, including the development of coherent interlinkages among relevant environmental conventions

in cooperation with their respective conferences of the Parties or governing bodies. In performing its functions related to the conventions signed at the Rio Conference or as a result of it and other relevant conventions, UNEP should strive to promote the effective implementation of those conventions in a manner consistent with the provisions of the conventions and the decisions of the conferences of the Parties,

Recalling further that it welcomes and fully supports efforts of convention secretariats, in response to requests from the respective conference of the parties, to explore, where appropriate, modalities for suitable liaison arrangements in Geneva and/or New York for the purpose of enhancing linkages with delegations and organizations at those United Nations centres,

1. Takes note of the above-mentioned recommendations of the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly;

2. Requests the head of the interim secretariat to make all efforts to strengthen further the collaboration with other relevant conventions and in particular, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands as well as other conventions related to sustainable development, and thereby assist UNEP in its role of developing coherent interlinkages among relevant environmental conventions in cooperation with their respective conferences of the parties;

3. Requests also the head of the interim secretariat to report to its next session on the implementation of this decision.

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